

Judge: Sylvia McNicoll

The Winner:

Hide and Seek by Amanjot Minhas.

In two pages, Amanjot Minhas manages to tell a solid story that addresses the theme Changing the World, One Child at a Time in two ways. Firstly, the main character Michael Sharpe, tries to help a homeless young person, feeding her snacks from the movie theatre where Michael works. Secondly, when the homeless girl Sharon becomes a casualty of her abusive dad, Michael is so impacted that he becomes a child's advocate lawyer.

Amanjot uses some nice detail from a typical teen part-time job: taking out smelly popcorn garbage between shows for example. Also she gives the reader a poignant image: "A delicate pale hand fell from under the stretcher."

Congratulations Amanjot.

Honourable Mentions:

In *Forgotten Memories*, Lucas Furlong uses simple rhyme and imagery to convey a range of emotion, sadness and regret as well as hope and a sense of peace. "The ground lay silent, tranquil with rest/As the sun dipped slowly into the west."

It's a wonderful Remembrance Day Poem.

In *The Chocolate Cake My Brother Baked*, Erin Janus creates a memorable character using fun rhyming poetry "I watched as he gathered ingredients and fiercely stirred the batter/Then carefully poured it into a pan with very little splatter." My favourite line shows the brother and a neighbour exchanging smiles. The boy is as excited to give as the neighbor is delighted to receive.

Congratulations Erin.